

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

ACDA-05 IO-11 SAM-01 SAJ-01 AID-05 TRSE-00 OMB-01

SIL-01 LAB-04 EB-07 COME-00 /095 W

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R 091158Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7027

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BONN 03889

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EGEN, PFOR, TU, GW

SUBJ: ECONOMIC COOPERATION MINISTER BAHR REPORTS ON
HIS VISIT TO TURKEY

1. DURING MY CALL ON ECONOMIC COOPERATION MINISTER BAHR
MARCH 8, HE WAS ESPECIALLY ANXIOUS TO DISCUSS HIS VISIT
TO TURKEY FROM WHICH HE HAD JUST RETURNED.

2. BAHR WAS OBVIOUSLY IMPRESSED BY HIS EXPERIENCE IN
TURKEY WHERE HE MET WITH DEMIREL AND FOREIGN MINISTER
CAGLAYANGIL. IN EACH CASE, NOT SURPRISINGLY, HE
WAS TOLD THAT THE FRG WAS TOO FRIENDLY TO THE GREEKS
AND THAT THE GREEKS COULD GET AWAY WITH ANYTHING
WHILE THE TURKS COULD NOT. IN BAHR'S OPINION, BOTH
DEMIREL AND THE FOREIGN MINISTER ARE LOYAL PROPONENTS
OF NATO. BAHR ADMITTED THAT DEMIREL MAY SOMETIMES
PLAY TACTICAL POLITICS, BUT IN THE CASE OF THE FOREIGN
MINISTER, HE THOUGHT THAT THE NATO SUPPORT WAS MORE
STRAIGHTFORWARD. HE NOTED THAT THE TURKS HAD BEEN
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REASSURED BY CONGRESSIONAL ACTION LAST FRIDAY

INDICATING THE POSSIBILITY OF A GREATER FLEXIBILITY
IN AMERICAN POLICY.

3. IN DISCUSSING THE BASIC ISSUE, THE TURKS TOLD BAHR THAT THEY WERE WILLING TO PROCEED ON A BASE AGREEMENT WITH THE US, STRUCTURED HOWEVER ON THE STATUS QUO AND NOT ON THE STATUS QUO ANTE. THE TURKS TOLD BAHR THAT TURKEY'S RELATIONS WITH NATO, THE US, AND CYPRUS WERE SEPARATE ISSUES WHICH NEED NOT BE COMBINED IN A PACKAGE. BAHR THOUGHT THIS WAS A POSITIVE STEP. IT SUGGESTED, FOR EXAMPLE, THAT TURKISH BASE POLICY NEED NOT BE CONNECTED WITH A CYPRUS SOLUTION. BAHR CAME AWAY WITH THE IMPRESSION THAT THE TURKS WOULD EVENTUALLY SIGN AN AGREEMENT PERMITTING THE GRADUAL REMOVAL OF TURKISH TROOPS FROM THE ISLAND. THE TURKS, ACCORDING TO BAHR, SAW THE GREATEST IMPEDIMENT IN ARCHBISHOP MAKARIOS. THEY TOLD BAHR, HOWEVER, THAT THEY DID NOT KNOW HOW MUCH REAL STRENGTH KARAMANLIS HAD IN GREECE, BUT THEY EXPRESSED GREAT CONFIDENCE IN HIM.

4. ON THE ECONOMIC SIDE, BAHR SAID THE FRG PLANNED TO SEND A HIGH-LEVEL GERMAN DELEGATION TO TURKEY IN APRIL TO DISCUSS GERMAN INVESTMENT. THE GERMAN DELEGATION WOULD BE MADE UP OF TWO OR MORE STATE SECRETARIES (SECOND-LEVEL MINISTERIAL OFFICIALS) AND SOME LEADING GERMAN BUSINESSMEN.

5. BAHR ALSO SAID HE DISCUSSED IN TURKEY THE POSSIBILITY OF RETURNING SOME TURKISH WORKERS IN THE FRG TO TURKEY. THIS PROPOSAL ON TURKISH WORKERS CAME AS A SHOCK TO HIS TURKISH HOSTS. BAHR SAID THE FRG WANTS TO REDUCE BY 100,000 THE PRESENT 600,000 TURKISH WORKERS IN THE COUNTRY. HE PROMISED THE TURKS, HOWEVER, THAT THE FRG WOULD NOT MOVE WITHOUT

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LAB-04 EB-07 COME-00 /095 W

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R 091158Z MAR 76

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 03889

AGREEMENT WITH THE TURKS, AND THAT THERE WOULD BE
FURTHER MEETINGS ON THIS SUBJECT.

6. BAHR POINTED OUT THAT SURVEYS SHOWED THAT THE
OVERWHELMING MAJORITY OF TURKS -- UNLIKE OTHER FOREIGN
WORKERS -- WANTED EVENTUALLY TO RETURN TO TURKEY.

7. ONE PROPOSAL TO ENCOURAGE THIS MOVEMENT HAS BEEN
THE FORMATION OF EMPLOYER COMPANIES BY TURKISH
WORKERS IN GERMANY AIMED AT CREATING ENTERPRISES IN
THEIR HOME AREAS IN TURKEY, TO WHICH THEY COULD RETURN.
THE TURKS HAD ON THEIR SIDE PROMISED TO GIVE
DUTY-FREE TREATMENT TO MACHINERY PURCHASED BY THESE
COMPANIES FOR INSTALLATION IN TURKISH ENTERPRISES.
SO FAR, ACCORDING TO BAHR, SOME 50 COMPANIES WERE IN
FORMATION. HE ESTIMATED THAT THE MONEY FLOWS
PER WORKER, WHICH COULD GO BACK TO TURKEY THROUGH
THESE COMPANIES, COULD BE AS HIGH AS 20,000 - 50,000
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PER YEAR. THE COMPANIES HAVE SO FAR ATTRACTED ABOUT
15,000 TURKISH PARTICIPANTS IN GERMANY AND BOTH TURKEY
AND THE FRG PLAN TO MAKE CONTRIBUTIONS FOR MANAGEMENT
TRAINING ETC., TO ENCOURAGE THEIR SUCCESS.
HILLENBRAND

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE, ECONOMIC COOPERATION, MINISTERIAL VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 MAR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976BONN03889
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760088-1019
From: BONN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760381/aaaacttw.tel
Line Count: 163
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ShawDG
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 31 MAR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <31 MAR 2004 by MartinML>; APPROVED <29 JUL 2004 by ShawDG>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ECONOMIC COOPERATION MINISTER BAHR REPORTS ON HIS VISIT TO TURKEY
TAGS: EGEN, PFOR, TU, GE, (BAHR, EGON)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006